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Man Sentenced to Life in Prison for Double Homicide at a Venice Park

A 23-year-old gang member convicted of capital murder was sentenced yesterday to life in state prison without the possibility of parole, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Michael Anthony Mariscal, (dob 2/2/92) was convicted by a jury on Nov. 12, 2014, of two counts of capital murder with the special circumstances of multiple murders and to benefit a gang in case SA078033.

Additionally, the jury found Mariscal guilty of three counts of attempted murder, one count of street terrorism and one count of possession of a firearm by a felon.

Prosecutors said on June 22, 2011, Salvador Diaz, 18, and Allan Mateo, 19, were sitting on bleachers in Penmar Park with a group of friends waiting to play basketball when Mariscal walked up and made gang references.

The defendant then opened fire on the group of five teens, killing Diaz and Mateo and wounding a 17-year-old male in the leg. Two other teens managed to escape without injuries, prosecutors added.

Following the shooting, the defendant fled the scene but was later arrested and charged in connection with the incident.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, Pacific Division.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.